Claims

1. A non-aqueous electrolyte which comprises a non-aqueous organic solvent and a lithium salt, and further contains a compound represented by the following formula (I):

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wherein X represents -O-, -S-, -CO- or $-SO_2$, Y represents a single bond, $-CH_2$ -, $-CH_2$ - CH_2 -, -CH=CH- or -CO- and R^1 to R^8 each independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, a phenyl group, or a halogen group, provided that X and Y do not represent -CO- at the same time.

- 2. The non-aqueous electrolyte according to Claim 1, wherein X represents -O-, -S- or -CO- and Y represents a single bond, -CH₂-CH₂-, -CH=CH- or -CO- (provided that X and Y do not represent -CO- at the same time).
- 3. The non-aqueous electrolyte according to Claim 1, wherein X represents -O- or - \bar{S} and Y represents a single bond or -CO-.
- 4. The non-aqueous electrolyte according to Claim 1, wherein X represents -O- and Y represents a single bond.
- 5. The non-aqueous electrolyte according to Claim 1, wherein 25 X represents -CO- and Y represents a single bond, -CH $_2$ -CH $_2$ or -CH=CH-.
 - 5. The non-aqueous electrolyte according to any one of Claims 1 to 5, wherein the compound represented by the formula (I) is contained in the electrolyte in an amount of 0.01 to 0.8 mmol/g.
 - 7. The non-aqueous electrolyte according to any one of Claims

1 to 6, wherein it is an electrolyte for a non-aqueous secondary battery comprising a cathode containing a lithium metal complex oxide and an anode containing a material which is capable of storing and releasing lithium.

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- 8. A non-aqueous secondary battery which is equipped with a cathode containing a lithium metal complex oxide, an anode containing a material which is capable of storing and releasing lithium and the electrolyte according to any one of Claims 1 to 7.
- 9. A non-aqueous secondary battery which is equipped with a cathode containing a lithium metal complex oxide, an anode containing a material which is capable of storing and releasing lithium and an electrolyte, wherein the cathode comprises the compound represented by the formula (I) according to any one of Claims 1 to5.
- 10. The non-aqueous secondary battery according to Claim 8 or 20 9, wherein the lithium metal complex oxide is a lithium cobalt oxide, lithium nickel oxide and/or lithium manganese oxide.
- 11. The non-aqueous secondary battery according to any one of Claims 8 to 10, wherein the material which is capable of storing 25 and releasing lithium is a carbonaceous material.